

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

SAVERIO C. FALCO ET AL

CASE NO.: BB1193DIV

SERIAL NO.: UNKNOWN

GROUP ART UNIT: UNKNOWN

FILED: CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH

EXAMINER: UNKNOWN

FOR: PLANT AMINOACYL-TRNA SYNTHETASE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-30.

Please add the following new claims:

31. An isolated polynucleotide comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding an lysyl-tRNA synthetase, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14 have at least 80% identity based on the Clustal alignment method, or

(b) the complement of the nucleotide sequence.

32. The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14 have 85% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

33. The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14 have 90% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

34. The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14 have 95% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

35. The polynucleotide of claim 31 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:9 or SEQ ID NO:13.

36. The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the synthetase comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:14.

37. A chimeric gene comprising the polynucleotide of claim 31 operably linked to a regulatory sequence.

38. A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 31.